

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the  
**LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY**  
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library  
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied  
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)

**This document is from the files of the Office of  
the Maine Attorney General as transferred to  
the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference  
Library on January 19, 2022**

February 29, 1928

To Honorable Ralph O. Brewster, Governor of Maine  
Re: Trust Funds, School for Girls

I have examined the letter of E. W. Webber, Superintendent of the State School for Girls, dated February 10th, directed to the Governor and Council, in which he asks about "the disposal of interest on trust funds, said funds having been left expressly for the use of the girls in this institution". It appears from his letter that unused interest on funds left for specific purposes has annually been taken by the State and held as a part of the general State funds.

Section 31 of Chapter 144 provides that the trustees of the State School for Girls shall transfer to the State Treasury the principal of trust funds left to the institution, and that annually it is the duty of the State Treasurer to pay five percent, in two semi-annual payments, to the treasurer of the school. The treasurer of the school then holds the interest and uses the same for the purposes expressed by the donor, or as "the trustees shall from time to time determine".

If the trustees of the State School for Girls have failed during the past few years to demand from the State Treasurer the payments of semi-annual interest and, because no demand was made, the State Treasury has neglected to pay to the treasurer of the school this income, and as a result the interest on these funds has become a part of the general funds of the State, the attention of the next Legislature should be called to the matter, so that specific appropriation can be made.

Funds left in trust do not stand on the same footing as appropriations made by the legislature and are or should be kept as continuing accounts, so that if the income is not all spent in any one year opportunity may be given for use in the future. The legislature has recognized this in the case of the State School for Girls, and the trustees should see that the school treasurer receives these payments and holds the money for the purposes intended.

Raymond Fellows  
Attorney General

RF/P